



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CLEAN DIESEL FUNDING ANNOUNCED ***\$135,000 Available to Reduce Diesel Emissions in Kentucky***

FRANKFORT, KY (Oct. 3, 2012) – The Kentucky Division for Air Quality (DAQ) is seeking proposals from public and private organizations for projects that will implement diesel emissions reduction strategies in Kentucky's diesel fleets.

These reductions may be achieved through a number of strategies, including the installation of retrofit devices and idle reduction technologies on vehicles, engine repowers, and vehicle replacement. Eligible vehicles include municipal vehicles; nonroad equipment, which is used in construction, mining, and agricultural operations; marine engines; and transit and school buses.

Diesel engines are one of the largest sources of harmful particulate matter (PM) in the United States. These engines also emit ozone-forming nitrogen oxides and toxic air pollutants. Diesel exhaust ranks among the air pollutants that EPA believes pose the greatest public health risks, as exposure to fine particles and ozone causes lung damage and aggravates existing respiratory diseases such as asthma.

In the past, Kentucky's clean diesel funding has been primarily limited to onroad public fleets. DAQ Director John Lyons sees this new round of funding as a promising new step in improving Kentucky's air quality. "We look forward to extending the success of our clean diesel program to a broader range of both

onroad and nonroad fleets,” said Lyons. “We recognize the environmental benefit of reducing diesel emission throughout multiple sectors of the Commonwealth’s economy.”

A total of \$135,000 is available. This competitive funding opportunity is open to any public or private entity located in Kentucky that owns and operates its own eligible diesel vehicles, engines, and/or equipment.

Applicants located in poor air quality areas of the state and proposals that demonstrate the most cost-effective emission reduction strategies will be given priority in grant awards. The division is also particularly interested in proposals for engine repower and replacement projects, as well as projects that occur within the nonroad sector, utilize alternative fuels such as electric and natural gas, and/or reduce unnecessary engine idling.

The deadline to apply for funds is Nov. 14, 2012. To apply, visit the division’s Website at <http://air.ky.gov>.

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